Section of the History of Medicine

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Paper

Magna Carta and the Hospital of Sant'Andrea, Vercelli [*Abridged*]

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Some years ago I called at the small North-Italian city of Vercelli, capital of the rice-growing district of Piedmont, and found that the building alongside which I parked bore, above the windows of the two-storey building, below the eaves, a row of marble medallions with bas-relief portraits of famous medical men, twenty-six in number (Fig 1). Over the entrance of the building, which I was not allowed to enter as it was the office of the Provincial Government, were the stylized portraits of Hippocrates, Celsus and Aretaeus of Cappadocia. Keeping company with these three and with Galen, Boerhaave, Morgagni, &c., were two Englishmen who, in spite of the Italianizing of their names, could be distinguished – Ienner Edoardo (Fig 2) and Sidenam. Along the north side of the building was an ancient arcaded loggia (Fig 3) in which an inscription stated that the building, the Ospedale

Fig 1 *Medallions on the old hospital at Vercelli*

Fig 2 *Medallion portrait of Edward Jenner*

di Sant'Andrea, was founded by Guala Bicchieri who saved France from heresy and England from her enemies. Further enquiry produced the fact that Guala Bicchieri was 'the Saviour of Henry III and of the Great Charter of England'.

Who was this Guala Bicchieri whose shield with three tumblers (bicchieri), under the cardinal's hat (Fig 4), adorns this building? How came the founder of a hospital in this little known Italian city to be known there as the 'Saviour of Magna Carta'–that Great Charter which is the foundation of British civil liberties? And from where did he obtain the funds to build not only this hospital, but the rest of the group of buildings of which this was only a part – the Collegiate Church of Sant' Andrea and the monastic cloisters attached to it?

The quest for an answer to these questions takes us to Plantagenet England at the time of the Barons' Revolt against King John.

King John and Magna Carta

In 1213 England lay under an interdict; King John excommunicated; Stephen Langton, the Archbishop of Canterbury a fugitive in Rome; a number of bishoprics vacant; the barons in revolt. Philip Augustus, king of France, at the invitation of the rebels and with the urging of Pope Innocent III, was preparing to invade the country.

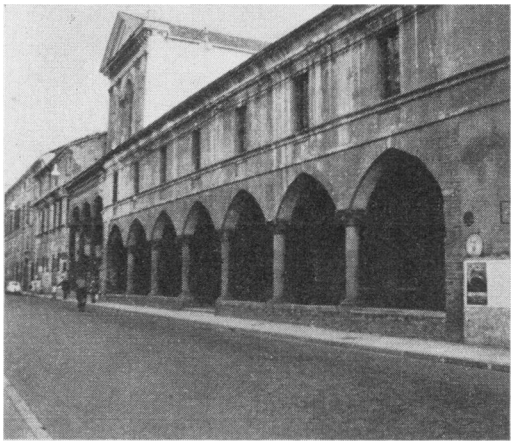

Fig 3 *Thirteenth century loggia of the old hospital*

John, fearing for his crown, decided to divide his opponents by a complete surrender to the pope. He put his proposal in the form of a charter dated May 15, 1213, in which he said:

'. . . we offer and freely yield to God, and His holy apostles Peter and Paul, and to the Holy Roman Church our mother, and to the lord pope Innocent and his catholic successors, the whole kingdom of England and the whole kingdom of Ireland . . . so that henceforth we hold them from him and the Roman Church as a vassal . . .'

Innocent III accepted John's submission and Stephen Langton, as legate, absolved John from excommunication; and the interdict was lifted. England and Ireland were now feudal fiefs of the apostolic see from which the king held them, as a vassal, at a yearly fee of 700 marks for England and 300 for Ireland, a total of 1,000 marks. That was quite a lot of money: the only English coin was the silver penny, twelve pennies were called a shilling, and twenty shillings worth of pennies weighed one pound troy weight of silver; as the mark was worth 160 pennies, 1,000 marks (that is, 160,000 pennies) would be £666 13s 4d, or 666·66 pounds troy weight of silver, a great deal of money at the beginning of the thirteenth century when an unskilled country worker earned about £2 a year and a skilled worker, such as a carpenter, about £6 a year.

The earls and barons of England, resentful of this trick by which they had been placed in the position of being rebels against the church, met in secret at Bury, as if on a pious pilgrimage, and there, over the bones of St Edmund, 'swore on the high altar that if the king refused to grant them . . . liberties, they would go to war against him . . . until he should confirm by charter under his own seal everything they should require'.

The rebels were too strong for John and on June 15, 1215, in the meadow of Runnymede, he reluctantly placed his seal on the Great Charter. But he had no intention of keeping his promise, for on the very next day he sent an account of what had taken place to the pope and asked for its annulment.

Innocent replied that the agreement was illegal and shameful and declared

'on behalf of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and by authority of Saints Peter and Paul His apostles . . . we utterly reject and condemn this settlement and under threat of excommunication we order that the king should not dare to observe it . . . The charter . . . we declare to be null and void of all validity for ever.'

The pope sent his friend Cardinal Guala Bicchieri, a native of Vercelli, a tried and successful negotiator, as his legate to England. Guala had already proved his worth as a negotiator, for in 1196 he had been sent as legate to France, where he had settled a threatened schism over the question of Philip Augustus's divorce. He had remained in France till 1209 and helped to draw up a new constitution for the University of Paris in 1200 and to found the medical faculty there in 1205. On his way to England Guala stopped at the French court to urge Philip Augustus to desist from his plans to invade a country which was now Church territory ruled by John as a vassal of Rome. But the French king's son, Louis, justified the venture, claiming that John had forfeited the throne by the heinous crime of murdering his nephew, Arthur of Brittany, the rightful heir, and that he, Louis, now claimed the throne of England on behalf of his wife, sister of Arthur. Guala, fulminating excommunication on anyone who joined Louis, left for England, followed shortly after by the French prince and his troops.

The French force joined the rebellious English barons and for nearly a year civil war raged up and down the country, in spite of Guala cursing

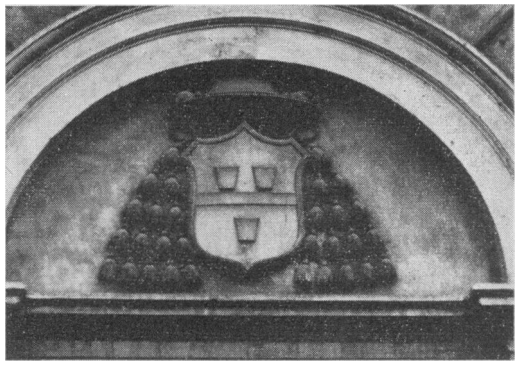

Fig 4 '*Stemma*' *of Cardinal Guala Bicchieri,* '*Saviour of Magna Carta*'. (*The three beakers are a pun on the cardinal's name*)

the French prince with bell, book and candle. In fact the legate became the very soul of the royalist cause.

In October 1216 John, after a successful foray into the eastern counties reached Lynn, where he was welcomed by the citizens and feasted well; but he contracted dysentery, and as the illness worsened, the king could barely sit his horse. He struggled to the Bishop of Lincoln's castle at Newark and Adam, the Abbot of Croxton, in Leicestershire, who had a great reputation for medical skill, was fetched to attend to him. The abbot could do no more than hear his confession and perform the last rites.

On October 19, 1216 King John lay dead at Newark Castle having finished himself off, it is said, by gorging on peaches and new cider. (His death was the only good thing he ever did for this country.) Adam carried out a necropsy, not for pathological purposes, but to facilitate the transportation of the king's body for the burial. His heart and intestines were taken away by the abbot for burial at Croxton Abbey but the body, after being liberally sprinkled with salt, was borne in a convoy right across the country and buried in the Cathedral Church of St Mary at Worcester.

Henry III

On October 28 the loyal barons, bishops and abbots assembled at St Peter's Abbey, Gloucester, where John's elder son, Henry, a boy of 9 years, did homage for the realms of England and Ireland to the Holy Roman Church and to Cardinal Guala as the pope's representative. He swore that he would pay the tribute by which his father had bound the lands to the Holy See. Guala then anointed and crowned the boy as king, and wardship of the king was invested in the new Pope, Honorius III, who had succeeded Innocent III.

Guala, as representing the overlord of king and kingdom, summoned and presided over a Great Council at Bristol a fortnight after the coronation, when the boy-king re-issued Magna Carta; but, not yet having a royal seal, he endorsed it with the seals of his guardians, Cardinal Guala Bicchieri and William the Earl-Marshall. The re-issue of this charter cut the ground from under the feet of those barons who had claimed that their revolt was to uphold the cause of justice and the rule of law. It was ironical that Magna Carta, forced upon the king by rebels and declared null and void by the pope, was brought back to life as a royal decree under the blessing and seal of the papal legate, Cardinal Guala Bicchieri of Vercelli. It was from that moment that Magna Carta became the symbol and starting point of our liberties. Though it has long been out of date, for centuries afterwards it proved a useful rallying cry for champions of freedom against royal tyranny.

Many of the rebels now deserted Louis and offered their allegiance to the young king, with whom they had no quarrel. With the final resounding defeat of the French forces in a great battle in the streets of Lincoln and the destruction, off the mouth of the Thames, of a French fleet bringing reserves and supplies, the war came to an end. Louis had no alternative but to apply for, and accept, the terms for peace offered by Guala, the virtual ruler of England. The French were absolved from their excommunication, reconciled to the church and escorted by the legate himself to Dover, where they took ship for Calais.

But, by order of the pope, the clergy who had disobeyed the pope by supporting Louis were to be punished by him. For example, Master Gervase of Hobrugge, a member of the chapter of St Paul's Cathedral and newly elected dean, whose signature as a witness can be seen on many documents at St Bartholomew's Hospital, was especially mentioned as excepted from the benefits of the peace. Throughout the war London had been the principal centre and support of the rebellion, and on October 27, 1217, the legate

> 'went to the Church of St Paul and caused all the altars and all the chalices to be broken up, and all the vestments to be burnt, and new ones to be put in their place; and he put in new canons; and the old ones who had chanted the service in defiance of him he deprived of their benefices . . . Some of the clergy he degraded; some he sent still excommunicate to the threshold of the Apostles'.

Master Gervase was amongst those sent to Rome.

Order and effective administrative machinery was gradually restored to the kingdom and the gratitude of the king and his council was shown by the grant to Guala of the lucrative revenues of priory of St Andrew, Chesterton, in Cambridgeshire, as well as other benefices. (Chesterton church is now within the boundary of the city of Cambridge.) The young king never forgot that he owed his throne to the pope and his legate. He declared long afterwards, 'when we were bereft of our father in tender years, when our subjects were turned against us, it was our mother, the Holy Roman Church, that brought back our realm under our power, anointed us king, crowned us, and placed us on the throne'. And in 1239, when Henry cancelled many of his former grants, he confirmed this grant to Guala of the abbey of Chesterton and its union with a Vercelli house which the cardinal had by then founded.

Guala Leaves England

By the end of 1218 Guala felt that his work in England was done. On the feast of St Andrew (November 30), he left for Italy. In Paris, on his way, he persuaded five canons of the Church of

St Victor to accompany him to his native city of Vercelli, where he intended to found a priory and hospital. (These Victorine canons from Paris lived in accordance with the rule of St Augustine of Hippo and were consequently known as either Victorine or Augustinian canons.)

When he left England Guala carried with him a very large sum of money, and he has, therefore, frequently been accused of avariciousness and of extorting wealth from the church and from Henry III. But a cardinal governing a kingdom in time of war needed money and he had been ordered by the pope to collect grants from the prelates; and then when he left, he took with him a part, but still only a part, of the arrears of tribute due to the pope from England and Ireland. The calumnies against Guala were begun by Mattew Paris (c.1200–1259), the greatest historian of the middle ages, who in 1236 succeeded Roger of Wendover as the official St Alban's chronicler. Paris started his history, the *Chronica Majora*, by rewriting up to 1235 the history of his predecessor, Richard of Wendover, but with a patriotic and anti-curialist bias. In the words of the Dictionary of National Biography:

'He was deeply angered when foreigners were promoted to high places in Church or state; when English wealth was spent on enriching them, or on objects and schemes that were of no benefit to the country . . . he spared neither pope nor king, neither cardinal, minister, nor royal favourite.'

In an insertion in the margin of Wendover's manuscript, Paris accused Guala of despoiling the clergy of 12,000 marks, and succeeding historians have copied the opinion expressed by him. For example, Milman (1854–55) states: 'England might have owed a deep debt of gratitude to the Pope and to the Legate, if Guala's fame had not been tarnished by his inordinate rapacity'. And Luard (1877), says that he was 'a feeble avaricious man, who seems to have plundered without shame and to have intrigued without success'. Thus has Guala, a man of high character and noble aims who cared little for personal advancement, been denigrated.

Sant'Andrea, Vercelli

Guala had for some years contemplated founding a monastery and hospital at Vercelli, his native city. In fact, in 1215 he had bought the land for this project, and on February 19, 1219, he laid the foundation stone of the buildings which were to comprise the priory, collegiate church and hospital of Sant'Andrea, Vercelli. It was for this purpose that he had invited the canons to come from Paris. Guala's foundation was richly endowed with the considerable income from his English benefice, the church of St Andrew, Chesterton, as well as much property which he owned in Italy. This transfer of the revenues of St Andrew, Chesterton, to Sant'Andrea, Vercelli, was confirmed by a Bull of Pope Honorius III and by Walter, Bishop of Ely, the overlord of Chesterton. Over the monastery Guala established as abbot Tommaso Gallo, that is, Thomas the Frenchman, one of the most famous canons from St Victor in Paris, a great friend of the English. Robert Grossteste (1173–1253), Bishop of Lincoln and Chancellor of Oxford, had been his pupil in Paris from 1209 till 1214. On the church of Sant'Andrea, Guala bestowed a number of precious relics of English saints and his library, which was probably the finest private library in western Europe at that time. It contained books of the liberal arts as well as the sacred literature. All that remains today of these bequests is the important collection of Anglo-Saxon poetry written in the Wessex dialect, known as 'The Vercelli Book', written on both sides of 136 leaves of parchment. The principal piece is a metrical legend of St Andrew. There also exists a eucharistic knife of English workmanship which was given him by the monks of an English charterhouse – it is now in the archæological museum in Milan.

Guala's bestowal of the church of St Andrew, Chesterton, upon his foundation of canons regular in the church of St Andrew at Vercelli, who remained the appropriators until *c.*1440, explains the existence at Chesterton of the two-storey Chesterton tower north of the church (Fig 5). It was built about the middle of the fourteenth century for the proctor of the abbot of Vercelli. A vicarage was ordained in 1273 but that the tower was not the vicar's dwelling is indicated by the concession of land south of the church for a vicarage. The presence of both a proctor representing the foreign house and a vicar at Chesterton is shown by the direction that:

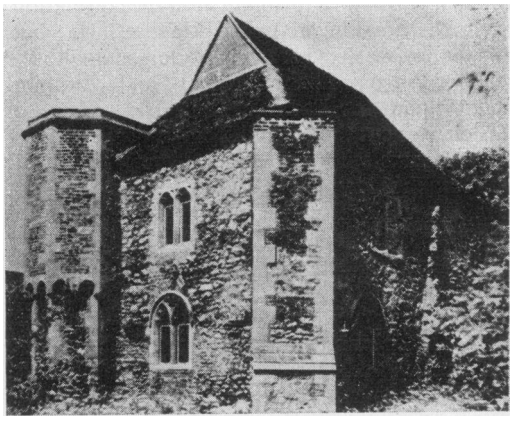

Fig 5 *Chesterton Tower, Cambridge*

'all priests celebrating in the church are to obey the abbot's procurator and also the vicar, who has the governance of the church on account of the English tongue and they are to do principal reverence to the procurator and secondary reverence to the vicar'.

The building of the church and hospital of Sant'Andrea at Vercelli was entrusted to Abbot Thomas, the inscription on whose tomb describes him, among all his other accomplishments, as what we would call today a civil engineer. Though the style of the church is purely Italian, the plan is of the English style and it is one of the earliest, or perhaps the first, in Italy in which the pointed arch was introduced.

The University of Vercelli

To the monastery was attached a school which, by 1228, was converted into a university for students of various nations – the English are specially mentioned (in a document dated April 4, 1228). Guala had had experience of this type of foundation when, as legate in France, he had helped to draw up the statutes relating to the students of the University of Paris. This university of Vercelli almost superseded that of Padua when, in 1228, the Studium Generale which had transferred to Padua from Bologna six years before decided to move again. An eight-year contract was made with the city of Vercelli for 500 of the best houses to be rented by the Paduan students; sufficient to accommodate between 2,500 and 3,000. The commune also undertook to send messengers to all parts of Italy to announce the establishment of this studium and to provide two copyists to transcribe books for the students at a rate fixed by the rectors. Among the masters, to be paid by the city, were to be two doctors of medicine.

It is not known exactly how many students migrated westwards to Piedmont, but according to the contract the whole studium was to move over for the eight years. The 'nations' specifically mentioned as electing their rectors at Vercelli are the French, English, Normans, Italians, Provencals, Spaniards and Catalans. Padua, however, was soon re-established and before long became the principal university in Italy and the most famous in Europe.

Adam Marsh (Adamo di Marisco, *c.* 1200–1258), one of the greatest Englishmen of the middle ages, after having been a pupil of Robert Grossteste (*c.* 1173–1253) at Oxford, went on to the Vercelli school. Guala, when in England, had known Grossteste, and continued to correspond with him, as did also Abbot Thomas, whose pupil Grossteste had been in Paris from 1209 to 1214. Relations between Vercelli and Oxford were very close.

The abbey and hospital of Sant'Andrea were under the protection not only of the pope, but also of the Emperor Frederick II who, in his campaigns into Piedmont, gave strict instructions to the imperial troops that these two institutions were under his protecton, were not to be plundered and were to be exempt from all taxation.

Ospedale di Sant'Andrea, Vercelli

The cost of building the hospital was less than that of the church, but it was very well endowed and protected as I have said, by both pope and Emperor. When Guala died in 1228 he left all his remaining property to his Vercelli institutions.

The hospital, like others at that time, functioned at first more as a hospice than an institution for the treatment of the sick. Pilgrims rested here on their way to or from Rome or the Crusades, but if ill or exhausted they stayed and were looked after till they recovered. However, by 1246 the infirm were being admitted, and after 1311 reference is made in the archives to patients and to doctors, that is, the institution had become a hospital in our meaning of the term. Meanwhile, further imperial and papal edicts specifically protected the hospital and ordered that all legacies left to the church were automatically to include the hospital as a beneficiary.

Administration: The hospital was administered by a canon appointed by the abbot, who had the title of Rector. He was in charge of the finances and of the staff, who consisted of lay people, male and female, who devoted their lives to the hospital and novices and probationers of both sexes. Some of the rules of the hospital were as follows:

(1) The brothers and sisters might drink wine at meals only on holy days.
(2) None of the staff, not even the rector, might lodge any relative (even to the fourth degree) in the hospital without the specific permission of the abbot.
(3) No one was allowed to send food or any other article out from the hospital.
(4) The rector could not give away donations or meals and could not 'dine out' without permission of the abbot.
(5) The rector was to present his accounts to the abbot three times per annum.
(6) The abbot could not transfer to other purpose any of the properties or income which the founder left specifically to the hospital.

There is no trace of the number of beds in the hospital at its foundation, but in 1314 six additional beds were endowed and by 1456 there were fifty beds.

During the fourteenth century the hospital flourished and gradually enlarged by absorbing a number of smaller hospitals in the town, of which there were about twenty. In 1290 the hospital of Sta Maria della Carità, probably the first hospital for incurables in Europe, was taken

over. There was at that time a hospital in Vercelli called the Ospedale degli Scotti di Santa Brigida, that is St Brigid's Scottish Hospital. It had been founded in 1100 for the special purpose of accepting Scottish and Irish pilgrims on their way to or from Rome or the Holy Land. As the Irish were then known in Europe as Scots, this accounts for the hospital being named after the second patron saint of Ireland; in fact it was really an Irish hospital. In 1343, this 'Scottish' hospital was in difficulties. In the struggle between Guelphs and Ghibellines, the administrator of the hospital, a Guelph, was in exile and the hospital had consequently closed its doors. By papal decree (confirmed in 1346), this hospital was united with the Ospedale di Sant'Andrea. In 1847 the disastrous failure of the potato crop in Ireland led to the great Irish famine and the administrators of the hospital of Sant'Andrea, in acknowledgment of the fact that this hospital incorporated the ancient St Brigid's Hospital, sent a donation of 2,000 lire (valued then at £500) to the Irish famine relief fund.

Other hospitals absorbed were the leper hospital (S Lazzaro), and the foundling hospital (S Silvestro). By the beginning of the fourteenth century the hospital, having absorbed about fourteen smaller hospitals, began to be known as the Ospedale Maggiore di Sant'Andrea, that is, the Great Hospital of St Andrew, a name it still bears.

By the fifteenth century donations began to decline and the activity of the hospital was decreasing, largely owing to religious schism and legal controversy, so that in 1431 the hospital was separated from the administration of the canons of the abbey and it was officially acknowledged as being a completely independent institution. The loss in 1440 of its English revenues from Chesterton, when Henry VI confiscated many of the estates of foreign priories, was a great blow to the hospital. The revenues of St Andrew, Chesterton were transferred by Henry VI to King's Hall, Cambridge, and all subsequent efforts for their restitution by and on behalf of the Vercelli house were unsuccessful.

There had been no neglect of the property for, in fact, a general rebuilding of the nave and aisles of the church was undertaken in the fourteenth century and much interior fresco decoration carried out; it is today a good example of a large English fourteenth century church. King's Hall was subsequently merged in Henry VIII's foundation of Trinity College to which Chesterton tower now belongs.

Both Henry IV (July 12, 1406) and Henry V (October 20, 1420) had confirmed the grant of Chesterton to Sant'Andrea. The action of Henry VI in withdrawing that grant is explained by the events which were taking place in the Catholic church. This was the time of the great schism, when the Council of Basle had deposed Pope Eugenius IV and elected the Duke of Savoy and Piedmont as Felix V. Eugenius excommunicated the anti-pope, interdicted his lands, in which Vercelli lay, and gave his approval of the action of Henry VI in expropriating the Vercellesi.

The resulting shortage of funds led to frequent changes of governance until, in 1545, after a century of financial difficulties under the administration of inexperienced 'tonsured persons', by an order of Charles III, Duke of Savoy, the hospital was put in charge of the city.

Thus began a new era in the history of the hospital. A new constitution was drawn up which gave it a new lease of life. Chronic cases, incurables, paralytics and the blind were no longer to be admitted – in other words, it now became a hospital for the treatment of acute cases.

Among new rules drawn up in 1564 were a number of clauses dealing with the staffing of the hospital. For example, two visiting physicians were to be appointed who would serve during alternate sessions of four months.

Until this time there had been no specific appointment of a physician to the hospital, though some of the Augustinian canons were knowledgeable as regards medicine, and during the period of the Vercelli University several medical men were among the masters; in fact, the city paid the salaries of two of the doctors of medicine. A famous medical man among the new appointees at the end of the sixteenth century was Francesco de Statiotis who is particularly remembered because of his method of ensuring his fees. He would have a contract drawn up by a lawyer with a clause stating that in case of the death of the patient, the heirs would pay the bill.

Two surgeons were to be appointed to visit the patients daily, and also an apothecary. Formerly, medicines had been compounded by the monks, as was customary until then (witness the pharmacological and materia medica knowledge of Friar Lawrence in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*). As it was not necessary to employ an apothecary 'full time', one practising in the city was to be appointed, who had a shop well stocked with all that was likely to be required. It was not till 1665, a century later, that a pharmacy was established in the hospital itself.

Chaplains were to be appointed and nurses engaged, for whom lodgings, that is a separate nurses' home, was to be built. Other clauses dealt with the procedure for taking over, and union with, other hospitals in the town; one item concerned in particular the hospital of St James, which was finally united with Sant'Andrea in 1587. In 1579 the hospital of Fasano was added and after the sixteenth century only two hospitals

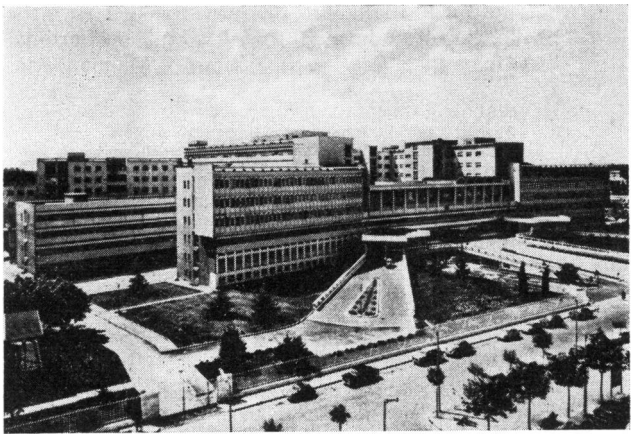

Fig 6 *The new Great Hospital of St Andrew at Vercelli*

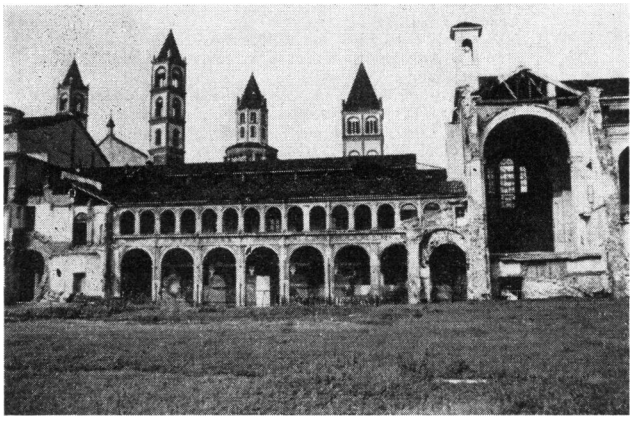

Fig 7 *The old hospital falling into ruins*

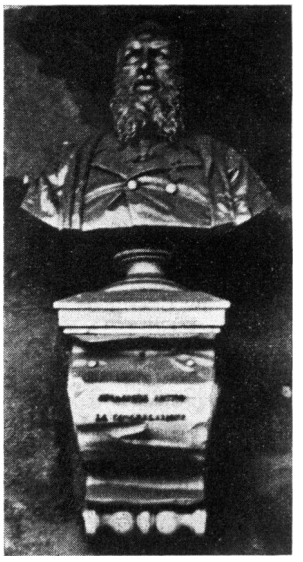

Fig 8 *Bernardino Larghi (1812–77), pioneer of antisepsis*

in the town remained independent of the great hospital.

During the first half of the eighteenth century a building was added to house the aged and incurable of both sexes. The mad and epileptics were still to be excluded, as were those suffering from infectious diseases.

The need for hospitalization of incurables, to relieve their families of the difficulties and strain involved in caring for them at home, was becoming more urgent during the eighteenth century, so that this section of the hospital was steadily enlarged, until in 1820 an additional section was built to accommodate them. About this time too, a maternity department was added.

In 1825 an order of sisters of charity was founded in Vercelli – the Sisters of Charity of Santa Margherita – and they were given charge of the nursing in the hospital and of its day-to-day internal administration. The prime purpose of the hospital was still, of course, the medical and surgical treatment of the poor, as had been the intention of the founder. However, the Napoleonic and Crimean wars and the battles during the struggle for Italian independence and unification meant that many wounded soldiers were needing hospital treatment, and one of the wards in which French as well as Piedmontese soldiers had been treated was named the Crimea ward. In this century Italy was, once again, involved in war and in 1919 the American Red Cross placed a tablet in the hospital to record its thanks for the care which had been given here to American soldiers wounded on the Italian Front during World War I.

In 1854, royal patronage, and appointment of the president of the governors of the hospital being placed in the hands of the King of Sardinia, brought the charitable work of the institution and the necessity of increased contributions to the notice of the public, which responded with enthusiasm. In 1868 that part of the building

Fig 9 *Portrait of Cardinal Guala Bicchieri (Ospedale Maggiore)*

which now houses the provincial offices was erected, and the sculptor Ercole Villa was commissioned to prepare the marble portrait medallions of twenty-six famous medical men, from Hippocrates to Scarpa and Jenner.

Early this century, it was realized that the old hospital building, with its conglomeration of additions to the early thirteenth century structure, was quite inadequate for modern needs. A site was obtained on the outskirts of the city where a modern 900-bedded hospital was erected between 1951 and 1961 (Fig 6). It is now truly a great hospital, modern in construction and in its efficiency, serving a large area on the borders of Piedmont and Lombardy; and its nursing is still in the efficient and devoted hands of the sisters of the Order of Sta Margherita.

The original premises of the old hospital were taken over by the administration of the province and Ienner and Sidenam, together with so many of their medical contemporaries and predecessors, as far back as Galen and Hippocrates, still look out upon the human race they have helped in its continuous struggle against disease. But the oldest part of the Great Hospital of Sant'Andrea (Fig 7), which has survived seven-and-a-half centuries, has fallen into decay and will soon disappear; even the bust (Fig 8) of the once famous Professor Bernardino Larghi (1812–77), a pioneer of antiseptic surgery, author of a dozen monographs dealing with periostitis and kindred subjects, who according to Castiglioni, 'made use of nitrate of silver in the treatment of wounds before the days of Lister', remains neglected in the old building until it too falls into the dust, together with the loggia of the hospital that was built by Cardinal Guala Bicchieri (Fig 9), Saviour of Magna Carta.

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Meeting November 5 1969

The following papers were read:

Dermatology at The London Hospital since 1867
Dr Brian Russell

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Tuberculosis in London 1850–1950
Dr W Hartston

Meeting March 4 1970

The following papers were read:

Adrien Barrère, a French Medical Caricaturist
Mr David Le Vay

Hogarth's View of Medical Practice
Mr J E L Sales